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 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
 INFORMATION FROM  
 FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR  
 SUBJECT Economic - Electric power

DATE OF INFORMATION 1948

HOW PUBLISHED Monthly periodical

DATE DIST. 14 Feb 1950

WHERE PUBLISHED Moscow

NO. OF PAGES 3

DATE PUBLISHED Dec 1948

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE Russian

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SOURCE Gidrotekhnicheskoye Stroitel'stvo, No 12, 1948.

#### HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANT CONSTRUCTION IN 1948

R. P. Nosov

The construction of hydroelectric power plants (GES) continued to develop successfully in 1948. The volume of construction and assembly work was 300 percent of that of 1940 and 210 percent of that of 1945 prior to the new Five-Year Plan. Restoration of Leningrad hydroelectric power plants was finally completed. The capacity of the Shcherbakov, Parkhadskaya, and Khramakaya hydroelectric power plants was increased. The following new hydroelectric power plants were put into operation: Svistukhinskaya, Dzauzhikau, Alma-Ata No 8, Rossuyskaya No 2, and Sukhumi. The water inlet from Lake Sevan began to operate continuously; this makes it possible to utilize the Kanaker GES at full capacity.

In 1948 considerable work was also done on the following large new hydroelectric power plants: the Gor'kiy GES on the Volga, the Kama GES on the Kama, and the Gyumushskaya GES on the Zanga. The construction of the Hingechaur GES has already reached the ground work stage. Workers of Mivagesstroy have dealt successfully with the 1948 plan. In only 10 months of 1948 builders of Glavgidroenergostroy (Main Administration of Hydroelectric Power Construction) carried out 6,365,000 cubic meters of earth and rock excavation, 2,175,000 cubic meters of filling, and 311,000 cubic meters of concrete and reinforced concrete work.

Labor had been so mechanized and its organization so improved that the output of one worker exceeded the 1940 level and was 25 percent higher than in 1947. Labor productivity has increased from quarter to quarter. If the 1947 level is assumed to be 100 percent, then the first quarter of 1948 was 110 percent of that, the second quarter, 128 percent, and the third quarter, 133 percent. Builders of Glavgidroenergostroy saved 23.7 million rubles during 9 months of 1948 as a result of efforts to reduce costs of construction and assembly work.

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Mechanization in construction of hydroelectric power plants showed a decided increase during 1948, as is indicated by the following table which lists the number of construction machines and means of transport for 1940, 1945, and 1948:

	<u>1940</u>	<u>1945</u>	<u>1948</u>
Excavators	36	36	103
Cars	495	537	2,479
Tractors	66	56	257
Locomotives, standard gauge	32	40	90
Dumping cars	126	117	294

Glavgidroenergostroy exceeded the plan for labor productivity as a whole, but there were serious deficiencies in certain construction projects. Labor productivity in the construction of the Akkavakskaya, Shaarikhanskaya, Nizhne-Bozsuyskaya, Nizhne-Varzobskaya, Ust'-Kamenogorsk, Dzauzhikau, Kama, Verkhotur-skaya, and Gor'kiy hydroelectric power plants was considerably below the average for Glavgidroenergostroy and below the quotas assigned for these projects. This indicates that proper attention is not being paid to mechanization of the labor processes and that labor is not being well organized and exploited.

Utilization of excavators, although above the 1947 level, continues unsatisfactory. During 9 months of 1948 only 63 percent of the plan for the utilization of excavators was fulfilled. Percentages for several construction enterprises follow: "Chirchikstroy" Trust, 38.4; Khramgesstroy, 52.4; Varzobgesstroy, 44.5; Verkhoturgesstroy, 41.7; Sochigesstroy, 63.8; and Kamgesstroy, 60.

Cost of construction and assembly work has continued to be high. During 9 months of 1948 the Gor'kiy GES completed 8 million rubles' worth of construction and assembly work and exceeded the cost estimate 3,700,000 rubles. The Ust'-Kamenogorsk GES with 18,500,000 rubles' worth of completed work exceeded the cost estimate 1,361,000 rubles. Corresponding figures for the Shaarikhanskaya GES are 3,715,000 rubles in completed work and 1,630,000 rubles in excess of cost estimate; Volgostroy, 14,500,000 and 799,000; Nizhne-Varzobskaya GES, 8,700,000 and 533,000; Verkhoturkaya, 2,600,000 and 474,000. However, good construction work by the Niva-III, Farkhadstroy, Mingechaur, Krasnopol'yanskaya, Sevan, Gyumushskay, Khramskaya, and Svirskaia hydroelectric power plants brought about positive results for the main administration as a whole.

Overhead expenses for construction and assembly work have been extremely high, amounting in the case of Shaarikhanstroy to 211 percent of the estimate; 189 percent of the estimate for the Gor'kovgesstroy; 134 percent of the estimate for Nizhne-Varzobgesstroy; 117 percent of the estimate for Volgostroy.

Construction enterprises which are working at a loss have either not developed measures to reduce production costs or have not carried out such measures. To the first class belong Nizhne-Varzobstroy, Irtyshgesstroy, Samgorigesstroy, Dzauzhikaugesstroy, and to the latter, Volgostroy, Gor'kovgesstroy, and Shaarikhanstroy.

The 1949 plan of Glavgidroenergostroy for capital investment in hydroelectric power plant construction is nearly 150 percent of the 1948 one. This will necessitate the excavation of approximately 18 million cubic meters of earth, the pouring of 800,000 cubic meters of concrete, and the construction of about 150,000 square meters of living quarters. It will be necessary to put 25 hydroelectric installations (gidroagregatov) into operation.

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Carrying out the 1949 plan will involve the following activities: in the case of the Kama GES, the completion of more than 3 million cubic meters of excavation work and starting the construction of the coffer dam of the first unit; for the Gor'kiy GES, the completion of preliminary work and the start of ground work; for the Mingechaur GES, expansion of the scope of ground work, mass pouring of concrete, and shifting of the channel of the Kura River; for the Ust'-Kamenogorsk GES, completion of preliminary work, mass pouring of concrete for the coffer dam of the first unit, and preparations for concrete work in the lock; for the Verkhne-Svirskaya GES, the elimination of stoppages in the concrete and quarry work to assure mass pouring of concrete.

The capital investment for the seven largest construction projects is approximately 70 percent of the total capital investment of Glavgidroenergostroy.

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